

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Resources
Washington, DC 20515

August 1, 2001

A great day for America!

Dear Colleague:

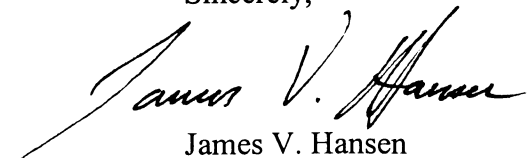
Today we begin debate on H.R. 4, a bill designed to address the future energy needs of this great nation of ours. President Bush sent us a proposal, and many nay-sayers claimed that it was dead on arrival, but fair-minded individuals on both sides of the aisle have proven those critics wrong. Willing to put aside partisanship, Republicans and Democrats have come together to fashion a bill which has been garnering tremendous bipartisan support in every committee with jurisdiction over this bill.

H.R. 4 protects our ability to maintain a high quality of life for all Americans. It allows us to maintain the economic progress which we have made in recent decades, and which drives the global economy, raising quality of life for all our trading partners. It does all this in a way that will allow us to be wise stewards of our wild places.

We all wish we were less dependent on foreign oil, and even that we were less dependent on energy sources which take millions of years to regenerate. H.R. 4 does both, allowing us to loosen the stranglehold of foreign oil producers, and generating new research into renewable energy sources for the future.

Today can be a day that this nation will remember, if we are vigilant in our duty. Today can be a day that we will look back on, years from now, and realize that America is still great because we were willing to do the right thing for our nation's future. It will be great because we were willing to value truth over the gloomy predictions of nay-sayers. I hope you will all join me in our efforts today.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James V. Hansen".

James V. Hansen
Chairman